



# MASSACHUSETTS STATE LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

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October 29, 1975

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

Enclosed for your consideration and approval are the Minutes of the last Council meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Executive Council of the Mass. State Labor Council, AFL-CIO will be held on Monday, November 3, 1975 at 2:00 P.M. at the Statler Hilton Hotel in Parlor B.

Looking forward to seeing you at that time, I am

Fraternally,

James P. Loughlin  
Secretary-Treasurer

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MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING  
STATLER HILTON HOTEL  
OCTOBER 24, 1975

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Present: Pres. Sullivan, Exec. V.P. Murray, Exec. V.P. McLaughlin, Sec.-Treas. Loughlin, Vice Presidents Barron, Binnall, Brunelle, Campobasso, Cardinal, Cleary, Drew, Dyson, Farnham, Fernandes, Ferreira, Grieco, Lavin, Litano, Moseley, Osborn, O'Donnell, O'Neil, Prendergast, Rodwell, Sonsini, Sullivan, Valentino and Wall

Absent: Vice Presidents Buffum, Claffey, DeRosa, Quinn (illness) Khoury, Tarallo & Weng

Meeting convened at 10:10 A.M. with President Sullivan presiding.

Minutes of September 18, 1975 meeting were accepted as written.

NEW AFFILIATIONS

Professional Fire Fighters of Mass.	16 Members
Amalgamated Transit Local 1512, Springfield	79 Members
Graham Jr. College Faculty Fed. Local 3235, Boston	19 Members
Law Enforcement Officers Local 1892, Boston	83 Members
Bristol Community College Faculty Fed. Local 2177, Fall River	59 Members

Motion duly made and seconded to accept the above. So voted.

PREVIOUSLY SUSPENDED LOCALS

USA Local 4559 - Paid back 9/16/75	246 Members
UPWA Local 400, Charlestown - Paid back 10/16/75	150 Members
Printing & Spec. Paper Prod. Local 528, Framingham - Paid back 10/16/75	8 Members
Fire Fighters Local 926, Revere - Paid back 10/2/75	80 Members

Motion duly made and seconded to accept the above. So voted.

DECREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

ACWA - Boston Joint Board - From 2,628 to 1,061	1,567 Members
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Motion duly made and seconded to place the above on file for future consideration. So voted.

TRANSFER OF UNIONS

From: Jerald Kiah, Fin. Sec. DALU 24666 37 Talcott Ave. Springfield, Mass. 01107	To: Jerald Kiah, Fin. Sec. UPIU Local 1395 570 Plainfield St. Springfield, Mass.
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Placed on record.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Pres. Sullivan reported that he discussed the Farm Workers with Ceasar Chavez while he was in San Francisco at the Convention. Nick Jones has been invited to meet with us today to give us an explanation as to how the election is going.

Pres. Sullivan asked that we give the Farm Workers the same consideration as we have in the past and allow them to come to the Convention and speak for five minutes as well as make a collection. Unless V.P. Barron has any objections





he asked that the Executive Board approve the same this year. V.P. Barron has been having some trouble with the Farm Workers.

Pres. Sullivan told Ceasar Chavez about the problems we are having with the new people representing the Farm Workers. In the past their word was good. We are now dealing with a fellow from New Mexico named Vincent Silva and we have had some differences of opinion.

V.P. Barron reported that he had an agreement with these people previously and there was no problem. If they were going to hit a store they would call first. Now it has gone down the drain with the change in personnel. If Nick Jones can get it back the way it was we should cooperate with the Farm Workers.

With regard to the Committees, President Sullivan told the Council that Charles Spillane, Cement Masons Local 534, Boston would be Chairman of the Committee on Guests. Al DiRienzo, Bricklayers Local 3 will be Chairman of the Election Committee.

We have received 55 Resolutions. Any Resolutions filed now will have to be given out to the delegates at the Convention. 1200 copies will be needed.

Pres. Sullivan mentioned Resolution No. 28, a Constitutional Amendment which leaves the number of Vice Presidents at 33 but would divide the Districts as follows:

- District 1 - Suffolk County - 2 Vice Presidents
- District 2 - Norfolk & Plymouth Counties - 2 Vice Presidents
- District 3 - Essex County - 2 Vice Presidents
- District 4 - Middlesex County - 2 Vice Presidents
- District 5 - Worcester County - 2 Vice Presidents
- District 6 - Berkshire County - 2 Vice Presidents
- District 7 - Hampden County - 2 Vice Presidents
- District 8 - Bristol, Barnstable & Dukes Counties - 2 Vice Presidents
- District 9 - Hampshire & Franklin Counties - 2 Vice Presidents


Sec.-Treas. Loughlin, Danny Murray, Bill Cashman & President Sullivan attended a hearing on the Blue Laws. The Governor is in favor of wiping them out and the Senate report, if accepted, will do just that.

We have a meat inspection program in Massachusetts. They are trying to have the Federal Government take care of that. The Federal Government doesn't have enough inspectors of their own. There is a meeting this morning between Danny Murray, Bill Cashman & Senator Kelly this morning to discuss this.

#### LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Bill Cleary requested a meeting with Speaker McGee which Leg. Dir. Cashman arranged. The reason for the meeting was to discuss releasing funds from Mass. Housing Finance Agency to start construction in the Greater Boston area and surrounding cities and towns. The monies were released and those jobs will be starting in the near future.

Leg. Dir. Cashman had a meet with various Representatives at the Statler Hilton Hotel on October 14, 1975. About twenty Representatives attended the meeting as well as Bill Cleary, Jack Davoren and Al DiRienzo of the Building Trades, Fred Hanson from the Carpenters and Larry Sullivan of the Gr. Boston Labor Council. We put it on the line that Labor is moving in a new direction. We want roll calls. We want labor's program to be given more than lip service. Speaker McGee told us



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about his labor record and the direction he would go with us. He made a few recommendations. Representatives Flaherty & Jones spoke at the meeting. The gist of their remarks was that we should have labor people out working for the people they want elected.

Leg. Dir. Cashman told the Council that not all the Representatives were invited. He tried to pick 35-40 that we know historically have been with Labor. There will be another meeting set up with the Senators so labor legislation can clear both Houses.

With regard to the budget, we were successful in working to take the tax off clothing.

The Voluntary Quits bill is in Ways & Means. It is believed that Senator Kelly put the Voluntary Quits bill in his package. A motion was made that the bill would go in. Kelly put other detrimental bills into the Budget & Tax proposal. Senator McKinnon made a motion to put Voluntary Quits into the package. This was discussed at a meeting with Smith & Crosier. The point was brought up that Sen. McKinnon was doing dirty work on the Voluntary Quit bill. Smith said his information was that Sen. Harrington was behind it.

Leg. Dir. Cashman got a call from Larry Sullivan. The Building Trades wanted a meeting between John Davoren and Senator Brooke. They were successful in getting the meeting. Senator Brooke strongly supported the Building Trades Situs Picketing bill. The Senate & Congress are now 100% for this bill.

There was a hearing on the Blue Laws. Rep. McLean said that we had to get behind this bill. We are out of date. It will mean employment. Many Representatives took our position. They were carrying the letter we sent out which contained V.P. Barron's information. V.P. Barron had some people there that worked in other parts of New England and they gave lie to the fact that it would increase employment and increase taxes.

Most of our legislation is still in House Ways & Means. Now we have the Voluntary Quits bill in there and we are keeping a constant check on it.

Leg. Dir. Cashman thinks that even if we have to pay for it we have to use the media to strongly urge our members to protest what is happening on the budget and tax program.

President Sullivan spoke to the Council regarding the resignations of Exec. V.P. Murray and Earl Benghston from the Governor's Task Force. Danny sent a letter on September 29th resigning and Earl Benghston resigned in person. At the meeting with Smith & Crosier Exec. V.P. Murray and Earl Benghston were asked to continue to serve on the Committee. President Sullivan thinks they ought to stay on. He found out a long time ago that if we have somebody on a committee that doesn't agree with a majority report they can file a minority report.

Motion duly made and seconded that the two brothers be asked to continue to serve on the Task Force so that we have somebody inside that can file a minority report and that publicity be given to the fact that we are asking them to return so everyone will know why they are going back. So voted.

A discussion was held among the Vice Presidents as to the best way to reach our people regarding legislation. V.P. Cardinal suggested that a letter be published for hand billing at plants telling the people what we feel and why we feel the General Court of the State of Mass. is wrong in their opinion on Voluntary Quits





and why Labor feels they are wrong in taking away the Blue Laws. V.P. Drew said that we have to educate our people. They don't understand what the bills mean. This should be done through the news media. V.P. Farnham suggested that this be referred to a Committee so we can do something about it and a report be made at the Convention.

Pres. Sullivan is not going to appoint a Committee one week before the Convention but at the Convention we will tell them we want delegates to go to the State House and visit with their Representatives & Senators. We should line up a lot of people for a march on the State House, possibly on Thursday afternoon. An insert can be drawn up to be put in the package we give the delegates.

Motion duly made and seconded that we have a demonstration where our delegates will walk to the State House and visit with their Representatives & Senators on matters at issue at that time and that a list of questions be made up to ask the Senators & Representatives. So voted.

Motion duly made and seconded to accept the President and Legislative Director's Reports. So voted.

#### SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion duly made and seconded to accept the Financial Report without reading it. So voted.

Sec.-Treas. Loughlin spoke to Howard Smith about the Blue Laws. The State keeps taxing cigarettes and liquor to the point where people are driving to New Hampshire to purchase the same. It is claimed that if the Blue Laws were wiped out we would receive approximately Eight Million Dollars. Sec.-Treas. Loughlin called a tax expert and he couldn't figure out how that figure was arrived at. Smith claims we could get another Million if we taxed unemployment insurance and knocked the chisellers off. It is bad enough now that you have to wait 8-10 weeks for unemployment and you can't get on welfare.

Motion duly made and seconded to accept the Secretary-Treasurer's report. So voted.

V.P. Farnham informed the Council that Harrington did not accept the job at Lowell Tech as he is going to be the Democratic candidate for Governor.

V.P. Dyson thanked everyone for their help in getting him selected Associate Commissioner.

Pres. Sullivan introduced Nick Jones of the Farm Workers.

Nick Jones spoke to the Council regarding elections in California. He also told the Council that we were no longer boycotting all grapes & lettuce. A list is being compiled. He asked that the Farm Workers be allowed to make a collection at our Convention.

Motion was duly made and seconded that the Farm Workers be allowed to go to the Convention and take up a collection. So voted with V.P. Osborn being recorded as opposed.

#### TAXATION COMMITTEE REPORT

V.P. Barron, Chairman of the Taxation Committee, spoke to the Council regarding the budget. He believes we cannot stick our heads in the sand and say no sales





tax but rather we should be concerned with what they do with the sales tax. The latest proposal would increase income taxes. The State needs 400 million dollars. The only place they will get the money is from our members and people like them. It won't come from the rich people. Convention action says we are 100% opposed to a sales tax and for a graduated income tax. V.P. Barron thinks that at our upcoming Convention we are going to have to consider our position on taxes. We shouldn't be bound by restrictions 6-10 years old. Our position now is that we are opposed to a sales tax but we should try to keep the sales tax at the 3% figure.

Motion duly made and seconded to accept the report of the Taxation Committee. So voted.

V.P. Campobasso made a motion which was duly seconded that this Council re-affirm our position that we are opposed to a sales tax in any form. So voted.

#### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT

V.P. Prendergast told the Council that many people are being hurt by the insurance companies. They are disregarding the law completely. We need to assign someone to Workmen's Compensation full time in the office. We should have someone to present our bills to the Legislature and to fight some of the bills that come up. V.P. Prendergast hopes some action is taken at the Convention.

Motion duly made and seconded to accept the Workmen's Compensation report. So voted.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

V.P. O'Donnell told the Council that some people from Community Services would like to meet with the Executive Officers, the Legislative Director and any other Vice Presidents that might be interested for the purpose of discussing the procedure being used as far as unemployment compensation, public welfare and ADC are concerned. Today anyone that becomes unemployed has to wait 5-6 weeks before their unemployment comes through. They are denied welfare benefits in the interim and have to wait thirty days for ADC. In other words, people who are unemployed have to go 5-6 weeks without any income or general welfare.

Pres. Sullivan advised that the records will show that a meeting will be held with the Community Services people, the Executive Officers and such people as they wish to bring to the meeting.

Motion duly made and seconded to accept the report of V.P. O'Donnell. So voted.

#### COPE REPORT

A recent decision by the Attorney General stipulates that a candidate for Federal Office or committees organized in their behalf are regulated by the Federal Election Commission rather than G.L. Chapter 55. Also a copy of the Federal Report must be filed with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Some requests are being made for copies of the rules pertaining to the election of a delegate to the forthcoming political conventions. Cope Dir. Callahan called the Democratic State Committee re copies of the procedure.

A request has been received from the Governor for names to be submitted for a position on the State Advisory Board of Education.





Twenty-eight candidates are seeking three seats in the Legislature - 27th Suffolk, 4th Norfolk and 47th Middlesex.

Motion duly made and seconded to accept the Cope report. So voted.

COMMUNICATIONS

From Doris A. Mullane, Sec.-Treas. GAIU Local 176B Norwood advising that they have dissolved. Motion duly made and seconded to accept. So voted.

From Richard A. Giesser, Ass't to the Sec. of Exec. Office of Economic Affairs re the appointment of James S. Cooper as Chairman of the Labor Relations Commission - Placed on file

From Chester J. Broderick, Chairman Boston Police Patrolmen's Ass'n Inc. re appointment of James S. Cooper - Placed on file

From Mass. Federation of Teachers, Francis M. Martin, Exec. Sec.-Treas. re meeting with Mass. State Labor Council on Collective Bargaining Agreements, State funding for Public Higher Education & Tuition increases - Motion duly made and seconded to comply. So voted.

From Paul Parks, Sec. of Educational Affairs re labor candidates for appointment to state education boards. Motion duly made and seconded to turn this over to Cope Dir. Callahan

Roll Call.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 P.M.

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AGENDA  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING  
MASSACHUSETTS STATE LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO  
STATLER HILTON HOTEL, BOSTON  
OCTOBER 24, 1975

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Minutes of September 18, 1975 Meeting.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 11:30 A.M. Nick Jones - Int'l Rep. United  
Farm Workers of New York

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

DEPARTMENT REPORTS - COPE - LEGISLATIVE

REPORT OF V.P. O'Donnell Re: Consumer Council

COMMUNICATIONS

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From Paul Parks, Sec. of Educational Affairs re labor candidates for appointment to state education boards

From James T. Nestor, Chairman, The Cushing Awards thanking us for purchasing 10 tickets

From Muscular Dystrophy Association thanking us for our participation

From Leon A. Normandin, Pres., UPIU Local 1102 thanking us for our donation

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